Independent investigation estimates over 10,000 Asian American Voters in Georgia May Be Suspected of Felony Voter Fraud

Al Jazeera Report Reveals Alleged Minority Voter Suppression Tactic

Atlanta, GA, October 29, 2014 — With less than a week away from the November 4th, 2014 Mid-Term elections, an Open Records investigation led by award-winning investigative reporter Greg Palast has uncovered lists of millions of voters suspected of double voting through a controversial "Crosscheck Program" being used in 27 states including Georgia. The list in Georgia used by the Georgia Secretary of State identifies approximately 10,000+ Asian American registered voters as potential double voters according to the investigative report. Voting in two different states is deemed a felony crime.

According to the full-length piece in Al Jazeera, the Crosscheck Program was created by Kris Kobach, Kansas Secretary of State, and designed to check if there are voters with the same names in participating states. If the first name and last name match, these voters are added to the list as suspected double voters. The investigation reveals a disproportionate finding of voter fraud among Asian American, African American and Latino voters.

The year-long investigation found serious issues in this Crosscheck Program including:

- 1 in 8 Asian Americans, 1 in 8 Latinos, and 1 in 7 African Americans are identified as potential double voters, significantly higher than the number of White Americans identified as potential double voters in Crosscheck;
- Social security numbers did not have to match for same named persons in different states to be identified as one, single 'double' voter;
- Middle names of persons in different states did not have to match to be identified as one, single 'double' voter;
- Despite millions being identified as potential double voters, so far the Crosscheck program has resulted in zero prosecutions or findings of actual voter fraud.

"Asian Americans Advancing Justice - Atlanta, together with our sister Affiliate groups, are currently reviewing the data and exploring legal strategies to ensure all Asian American voters have their voices heard," said Helen Ho Advancing Justice - Atlanta's Executive Director.

"This latest hurdle for minority voters in Georgia should propel and incite us all to vote. If anyone has trouble voting, reporting this problem will only help our goal of voter equity because it will identify and resolve this issue. This can only suppress our vote if we let it," said Ho.

Anyone with questions or difficulty before November 4th should call Advancing Justice - Atlanta at 404-585-8446. We can assist in English, Korean, Vietnamese and Chinese languages. Voters experiencing difficulty on November 4th should call 1-888-API-VOTE, a multilingual hotline among Advancing Justice, APIA Vote and the Lawyers Committee.

The investigative report is available here: http://projects.aljazeera.com/2014/double-voters/index.html. The Al Jazeera America news network will broadcast a two-part report on television tonight (Wednesday) and Thursday.
About Asian Americans Advancing Justice - Atlanta

Asian Americans Advancing Justice - Atlanta (formerly Asian American Legal Advocacy Center or AALAC) is the first non-profit law center dedicated to Asian immigrants and refugees (“Asian Americans”) in the Southeast.

Our goal is to engage, educate and empower under-represented Asian Americans to greater civic participation.

We are one of five independent organizations that make up the national Asian Americans Advancing Justice. Together with our affiliates in Chicago, DC, Los Angeles and San Francisco, we bring more than 100 years of collective experience in addressing the civil rights issues faced by Asian Americans and other vulnerable and underserved communities. Visit www.advancingjustice-atlanta.org.